of sick textile mills takenover/nationalised by the Government from time to time, for rehabilitating and modernising them, for making them economically viable. It is not correct to state that NTC sells cloth at lower rates. The prices of products of NTC mills are fixed on the basis of demand and supply position in the market as also in relation to costs of each item.

848 [*Transferred to the 8th January,* 1991.]

Demand for a High Court Bench at Dibrugarh

849. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a long pending demand from the people of Upper Assam as well as the Bar to set up a High Court Bench at Dibrugarh; and

(b) if so, what is the present position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY): (a) Representations have been received for establishing a Bench of Gauhati High Court in the Barak Valley of Assam

(b) No action has been taken by the Central Government as no proposal has been received from the Government of Assam in this regard.

Recommendations by Orissa government for setting up a private unit of ferro nickel in cuttack

850. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state.

(a) whether Orissa Government has suggested to the Central Government that a Letter of Intent to a private party be issued to set up a unit in district Cuttack for the manufacture of 52000 tonnes per annum of Ferro Nickel; and

(b) if so, what action the Union Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BASAVARAJ PATIL). (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Lapsed LIC Policies

851. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of insurance policies issued by the Bombay Divisional Office of Life Insurance Corporation under its salary savings scheme are getting lapsed every year for want of premia collection procedure from the employers of the insured,

(b) whether the Corporation has also not been collecting the premia after the transfer of the insured from one place to another;

(c) whether some of the insured have sought exemption for delayed payment of premia which mostly arose due to the failure of the Corporation to collect the same,

(d) whether the Bombay Divisional Office has been holding on the subject since long and as a result some insured have sought refunds of paid up premia, and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH). (a) to (d)

No, Sir. The procedure in vogue in Life Insurance Corporation of India for deducting the premia from the salaries of the employees concerned (before or after transfer) under its Salary Savings Scheme works satisfactorily and prevents lapses to a great extent.

(e) Does not arise.

Missing record on appointment of Directors in some undertakings under Ministry of Textiles

852. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3394 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th September, 1990, and state:

(a) what efforts were made to find out the contents of the missing records relating to appointments of directors in some undertakings of his Ministry and whether any inquiry was made by the vigilance organisation or CBI to fix responsibility about the missing records, from Government files;

(b) whether the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet had earlier not approved the first candidate, whose records are missing, listed in PESB's approved panel for the post of director and in that event whether it was not incumbent either on the concerned Minister or the ACC to consider the other names in the same panel;

(c) whether the decision not to consider other names in the panel was taken at the level of bureaucracy;

(d) whether the appointed director has been still on probation; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) All efforts were made to locate the missing papers. No inquiry has been made by the vigilance organisation or CBI in the matter. However, a Departmental enquiry is being ordered to fix responsibility about the missing records.

(b) and (c) The proceedings of the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet are confidential in nature and cannot, therefore, be divulged in public interest.

(d) and (e) The performance of the concerned officer has been submitted for review.

Modernisation of work of Bengal Fine Spinning and Weaving Mills Limited, Calcutta

853. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 2599 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th August, 1990 and state:

(a) whether the investment on the modernisation work of BFS&W Mills, Calcutta has now been utilised;

(b) if not, what is the total amount of accumulated loss of interest on the investment;

(c) whether the decision for modernisation was taken by the NTC Limited (Holding Company) on or about 31st October, 1979 and in pursuance thereof the contract was awarded on or about February, 1981,

(d) whether the contract was terminated twice for want of funds;

(e) whether the total value of the contract was only Rs. 21 lakhs;

(f) whether the termination of the contract by NTC (WBABO) Limited, Calcutta would attract penal provisions under the Contract Act; and

(g) if so, what are the details thereof?